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BY
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AT THE LOCAL PLAYHOUSE.

SLAUGHTER ON THE RAIL

About seventy persons are dead and more than a hundred are maimed or otherwise injured as the result of Saturday's head-on collision upon the Southern Railway, says the New York Herald.

The increasing number of fatal accidents upon our railways calls for more than passing comment. "Nobody to blame" is a plea that should not be accepted, for in nearly all cases these catastrophes are preventable.

There were more than 80,000 casualties, including nearly 10,000 deaths, upon our lines in the latest fiscal year, for which the completed figures have been compiled by the authorities. In the latest corresponding year only six passengers were killed in the whole of the United Kingdom by accidents to trains. The casualties to passengers, employees and all other persons on the railways of the United States in recent fiscal years (ending June 30) have been as follows:

	Killed.	Injured.
1895	6,136	33,748
1896	5,845	38,687
1897	6,437	36,731
1898	6,859	40,882
1899	7,123	44,620
1900	7,865	50,320
1901	8,455	53,339
1902	8,599	64,662
1903	9,840	76,553

With the growth in traffic and the increased income of the railways the plea made a generation ago of poverty on the part of the railway corporations and hasty construction "to open up the country" is obsolete. There is no excuse to-day for improvised construction or flimsy rolling stock, and the public may well challenge the policy of distributing enormous sums in dividends while maintaining a single track line and running trains in opposite directions over the same rails.

The satirical suggestion that accidents might be prevented by making a director ride on every locomotive is not practicable, but it is practicable to institute more rigid investigations into the causes of these disasters and to inflict adequate punishment upon those responsible for them. England's comparative immunity is in large measure due to the fact that the Board of Trade will prosecute and secure the imprisonment of the guilty person, whether he be an engine driver or a director.

It is significant that in Saturday's accident, as in so many others, the great loss of life was confined to the inmates of the flimsy day coaches, which collapsed like eggshells, while the heavier sleeping or parlor cars withstood the shock and were not even derailed. Isn't it time to insist upon more substantial cars for all passengers and to institute a rigid inspection which will eliminate those that have become old and rotten? One theory advanced to explain the failure of the west bound train to stop on Saturday at the proper point is that the engine driver had died at his post. Whether this was the case or whether the engine driver had a mental lapse, there is a timely renewal of the suggestion that there should be two men within reach of the throttle and both acquainted with the running orders.

The increasing number of fatal accidents has excited public feeling, and certainly legislative measures will be taken to check this ruthless slaughter on the rail.

The Campaign to Date.

Surveying the political field in the last week of September the New York Herald, in endeavoring to present the conditions as they appear to an impartial observer, considers New York the pivot of the campaign. Figuring that the Democracy has 159 votes and will require 239 to win, Parker must get 80 outside the sure Democratic States. New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Indiana and West Virginia would give him just 80, but the Herald admits that "West Virginia has been practically wiped off the slate of Democratic expectations." In fact, the only States of the five considered really doubtful are New York and Wisconsin. Republicans are increasingly confident of Connecticut and Rhode Island. New Jersey is also counted safe. In Indiana there is no indication of a revulsion of sentiment.

The reports upon which these conclusions have been based agree fairly well with the general trend of opinion. The campaign may be red hot in spots, but the country as a whole seems to have decided to stand pat.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Morris Won.

Tusca Morris won in the tennis tournament over Allison Fleming. In the final each won two games and the tie was played off last evening. Morris won it. The doubles were begun last evening and will be continued again in a few days.

A Magnificent Production of Sousa's El Capitan.

The production of El Capitan which will be presented at the Grand Opera House Saturday evening will surpass anything ever seen in the comic opera line in this city. This opera has played at the Broadway Theatre, New York City, for upwards of three years to record breaking attendance and was the talk of all New York. A reproduction of the same will be given here, with special scenery which is said to be something gorgeous, having been specially designed and painted for this season's production of El Capitan.

The Models were designed from photographs of the city of Peru, and the costumes imported, having been made from the original designs. The decorations and stage settings will be exactly the same in every detail as when the opera made its initial bow to the public a few seasons ago.

"Macbeth."

J. M. Hickey presents John Griffith in "Macbeth" at the Grand Opera House on to-morrow evening. This gigantic production of "Macbeth" is a moral tempest. Crimes and retributions come whirling past us like the rushing of a resistless hurricane. The very prologue of the play is spoken in thunder and lightning, everywhere we have storms, and slumber shuts up the senses of the body, to let out the secrets of the soul. In the exciting of terror, this version of "Macbeth" is truly without a parallel. The crimes that Macbeth commits are not the crimes of a cruel ruffian, but of a great man whose nature has been inverted, polluted and partly crazed. The evil influence of crime, coiled within the fairest flower, spreads over the whole circle of human existence, not only working the doom of the criminal himself, but scattering far and wide the seeds of destruction.

LITTLE NOEL NICOLS DEAD.

Sad News Reached Here From Romney This Morning.

A telegram was received by Mrs. Thomas Reed this morning announcing the death of Noel Nicols which occurred at Romney early this morning. Friends in this city are greatly shocked over the news for no one knew of the child's illness. No particulars have been learned except a telephone message from Grafton stating that friends in that city had known that he had been suffering from a heavy cold. As he never possessed a strong constitution it is thought that pneumonia claimed him as a victim.

Noel was eleven years old and the only son of Mrs. Gertrude Nicols, a much loved teacher in the primary department of the Grafton school. Mrs. Nicols and two children, Noel and Margaret, had been visiting the former's sister, Mrs. Delphia White, of Romney, for several weeks. The body will be brought to Grafton on 55 to-morrow evening. Arrangements for the funeral have not been made, as Mr. Nicol is in Birmingham, Ala., and the date of his arrival has not yet been ascertained. Several Fairmont people will probably go to Grafton to-morrow or next day as the family is well known here and the boy was loved for his many noble traits of character. His loving devotion to his mother and little sister was remarked by all, and the hearts of their friends are heavy with sorrow for them in their great bereavement.

SELECT OFFICERS.

Locomotive Firemen Re-elect Their Old Officials.

(By Publishers' Press.)

BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 28.—After six hours' spirited discussion, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen last evening re-elected the following officers: John J. Hannahan, grand master; C. A. Wilson, first vice grand master; T. Shea, second vice grand master; C. W. Maier, third vice grand master; E. A. Ball, fourth grand master; W. S. Carter, secretary and treasurer; John F. McNamee, editor and manager locomotive firemen's magazine; J. N. Murphy, general counsel; W. B. Watts, Grand Medical Examiner. The choice of cities for the next convention is divided between Milwaukee and Birmingham, Ala.

New Board Walks.

Messrs. Watson, Miller and Malone, who own several houses on Virginia avenue, have greatly improved the same by having good board walks built along the street and to each house. There are good walks from Eighth to Ninth street, and there is also a good one to Fairmont avenue, giving the people a way to reach the main part of the city without wading the mud—when there is any.

Are you going? Where? Why to the King's Daughters' supper at M. Z. Church? Friday Sept. 30. It's only 35 cents.

Marion Claim Agency collects accounts.

ATTACKS PARKER'S TRUST RECORD

In Interview Given Out at Republican Headquarters William Dudley Foulke Quotes Decisions.

"NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—George B. Cortelyou and his associates on the Republican National Committee yesterday attacked Judge Parker's record on trust decisions in the interview handed out at the Republican National headquarters, and which interview purported to be with William Dudley Foulke, of Indiana, formerly a Civil Service Commissioner under President Roosevelt. The interview said in part:

"Judge Parker declares that common law principles can be applied by the United States courts to the trusts in cases involving interstate commerce. It is therefore interesting to inquire what are these common law principles as interpreted by Judge Parker himself and by his associates on the bench of the Court of Appeals.

"The Court of Appeals has sometimes been extremely liberal in allowing individuals and corporations to combine in such a manner as to control the trade. In Wood vs. Whitehead Brothers Company the opinion of the court, in which Judge Parker concurred, says: 'Contracts between parties which have for their object the removal of a rival and competitor in a business are not to be regarded as contracts in restraint of trade. They do not close the field of competition except to the particular party to be affected. To say at the present day that such a contract was made in this case was affected by a public interest and was a matter of public concern would be unreasonable.'

"Under such a view of the law it would not be a difficult matter for any trust to eliminate competition even without buying the plant and property of its competitor. It could make arrangements with such competitor separately and thus acquire an ultimate monopoly.

"In another case where the terms of the contract were particularly flagrant, Judge Parker decided against an agreement creating a monopoly, and reconciling these authorities it may be said that under the law as established by the Court of Appeals the trusts are required to observe a certain skill as to the form of their consolidations, but if they understand how to do it combinations to control trade can be made with impunity. It is easy to see why the nomination of Judge Parker has been satisfactory to many of the trusts."

AMERICA'S BUSINESS "ABSOLUTELY SOUND"

A BRITISH EXPERT'S VIEWS OF THE INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS IN AMERICA.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The report of Seymour Bell, the commercial agent of Great Britain in the United States, of the trade of the United States for 1903-1904, just issued, says:

"In part of the year the climax of an almost unparalleled period of prosperity was reached and values were forced up to their extreme limits. Speculation was enormous, and the over extensions of business led eventually to a curtailment of credit. More securities were thrown on the country than it was able to absorb. A natural reaction set in and a contraction of business immediately took place. Large orders were cancelled and a period of comparative quiet commenced. The country requires time to rest and recuperate and the gambler time to forget this period of inflated prices and excessive speculation."

Many manufacturers, says Mr. Bell, who neglected their business in attempts to gain fabulous fortunes in Wall Street have now returned to their factories. He adds:

"At the present time it would be exceedingly difficult to float a company of any size. The investing public will require considerable time to forget their heavy losses during the late industrial boom. How long this period of recuperation will last depends largely on the size of the crops. The present indications do not point to a long period of low prices."

The dumping of iron and steel, Mr. Bell also says, has decreased and has increased the cost of manufacture in America to a considerable extent. He adds:

"It has been suggested in several quarters that the dumping was suspended for political reasons, the object being to stifle any agitation with reference to tariff questions."

Mr. Bell, in summing up, says: "The general business of the country is absolutely sound."

Suit Entered.

Jane Douglass has entered suit in chancery in the Circuit Court against William Douglass. Attorney T. N. Parks represents the plaintiff.

Street Hats never were as pretty and prices as low at The Bon Ton.

GOT A VERY LATE DINNER

DID DEPUTY SHERIFF WATSON, ALL BECAUSE JIM MANEAR WASN'T EASILY FOUND.

Not only do the people of Monongah wreak their vengeance on peddlers and foreigners but once in a while a "jolly old pedagogue" comes in for his share of the knocks and bruises, or, at least, he fears he will. Yesterday morning a man belonging to the latter class came down from Monongah and rushed into Justice Amos' office. Those present could easily see that there was blood in his eye. He informed the justice that he wanted a warrant and wanted it quick. He gave his name as C. A. McIntire. He claimed that one James Manear had made terrible threats against his corpus and that he wanted protection for it. It was claimed that the defendant had held him up and threatened to stone him full of holes if he attempted to go the hundredth part of an inch further. Fifty cents was the sum asked for as a token of good faith. Manear was also charged with following the other man around and in to the postoffice.

The warrant was issued, and though Jim is usually not so hard to find, Deputy Sheriff Watson did not get his mid-day lunch until after five o'clock in the evening. He found Jimmy on the hill back of Pennois just as he was about to enter the mine. He was told to come along and he did so. Before Justice Amos said that he was not ready for trial and in default of \$100 bond he was taken to the county's calaboose. The trial will come up Saturday. Friends of the defendant came down last evening and furnished the required bond.

CENTRAL W. C. T. U.

MET TUESDAY NIGHT AND ELECTED OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

The Fairmont Central W. C. T. U. met in their parlor Tuesday evening, September 27, 1904, and after disposing of unfinished business for the ensuing year officers were elected as follows:

President, Mrs. N. R. C. Morrow.
Vice President at large Mrs. J. Engle.
Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Mollie Ross.
Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. W. Barnes.
Treasurer, Mrs. B. P. Musgrave.
Vice Presidents,
M. E. Church, Mrs. F. M. Wilson.
M. P. Church, Miss Carrie Shore.
Presbyterian, Mrs. Sarah Lloyd.
M. E. South Church, Mrs. Linnie Boice.

P. E. Church, Mrs. Laura Jackson.
Christian Church, Mrs. J. W. Myers.
Baptist Church, Mrs. C. O. Henry.
Superintendents of Departments,
Evangelistic, Mrs. G. F. Carrell.
Assistant, Mrs. J. Engle.
Medal Contest, Miss Isa Hawkins.
Non Alcoholic Medication, Mrs. C. O. Henry.

Social Meetings and Red Letter Days, Mrs. Mary Hennen.
Mothers' Club, Mrs. J. W. Barnes.
Flower Mission, Mrs. Jessie Crow.
Assistant, Mrs. Della Shinn.
Scientific Temperance Instruction, Miss Belle Wilderman.
Franchise, Mrs. Beulah Ritchie.
Literature, Mrs. Francis P. Parks.
Sunday School Work, Mrs. Richard Manley.

Press, Mrs. Alice Miller.
Railroad Work, Mrs. Olive Pitzer.

A COSTLY JOKE

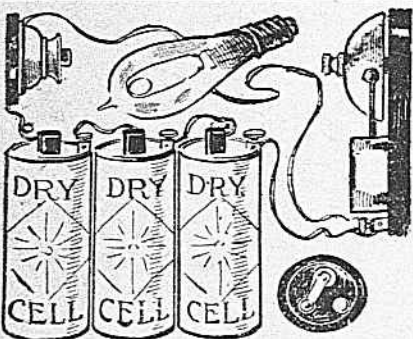
HAD TO PAY SOME MONEY AND SUFFER MENTAL AND BODILY ANGUISH DID SAM WEEDEN.

There was a slight stir in colored circles around the Manley Hotel yesterday. Elmer Jackson came before Justice Amos and swore out a warrant charging Sam Weeden with taking his watch. Jackson left his watch hanging in a closet and Weeden took it, as he claims, as a joke. He had a witness to prove that. When he learned that the State of West Virginia was after his body he returned the watch. Then for revenge. He went to the stable and got a pitchfork. Going into the hotel he threatened to reduce the colored force. He was hurled from that sanctum and is now conscious of a knowledge of the strength of the muscles of a certain man's leg. After wandering around awhile he was arrested by Chief Morgan who had the warrant.

He spent the night with the county's guests and this morning was brought before Justice Amos. As the watch was taken as a joke, he was allowed to go by paying the costs.

Lady Curzon Better.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—The bulletin issued this morning by physicians in attendance upon Lady Curzon states that the patient has distinctly rallied and that her condition is less grave though still critical.



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The well known W. L. Douglass \$3.50 shoes for men at C. B. Highland's.

Get one of those new Trolley Shawls at The Bon Ton.